



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE OF COUNSEL
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

03945 U.S.PTO
10/679683



MFO:amc
Ser 3000C/P457
Attorney Docket No. 84842
30 September 2003

14023 US.PTO
100603

To the Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Applicant: WAYNE C. TUCKER ET AL
For: CHROMATE-FREE METHOD FOR SURFACE
ETCHING OF STAINLESS STEEL

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the above-identified papers constituting a divisional Patent Application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) of pending prior Application Number 10/143,173, filed on 7 May 2002 entitled NON-CHROMATE METAL SURFACE ETCHING SOLUTIONS, filed by the Department of the Navy on behalf of the above-named applicant.

Enclosed is a copy of the latest inventor-signed prior application, including a copy of the oath or declaration showing the original signature or an indication it was signed. I hereby verify that the papers are a true copy of the latest signed prior application number 09/932,565, and further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 USC § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

There are enclosed (i) preliminary amendment, (ii) copy of a petition requesting special status under 37 CFR § 102(c) filed on 4 March 2003 in the prior application, and (iii) copy of [grant of] Petition under M.P.E.P § 708.02(V) issued in the prior application on 20 May 2003. The prior application is assigned of record to the United States of America as represented by the Secretary of the Navy. The power of attorney in the prior application is to: Michael J. McGowan, Reg. No. 31042; Prithvi C. Lall, Reg. No. 26192; and Michael F. Oglo, Reg. No. 20464. The power of attorney appears in the original papers of the prior application.

The total filing fee has been computed in accordance with the following formula:

Basic Application fee.....\$ 750.00

Basic SIR fee (See attached Request for SIR)\$

Additional Fees:

1. Total number of claims in excess of
20 times \$18.00.....\$
2. Number of independent claims minus
3 times \$80.00.....\$
3. Filing multiple dependent claims
\$260.00 per application.....\$

Total filing fee.....\$ 750.00

Please cancel claims as directed in the preliminary amendment before calculating the filing fee.

Kindly charge the aforementioned total filing fee and any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 14-0590.

Respectfully,

michael F Oglo

MICHAEL F. OGLO
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 20464

Encl:

- (1) Application papers
- (2) Preliminary Amendment